

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 06596 232113Z

61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W

----- 000656

O P 232034Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9109

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMCONGEN BELIZE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS : PFOR, PBOR, UK, GT, BH, OAS

SUBJECT : BELIZE: REACTION TO IV COMMITTEE VOTE

ARA FOR AMBASSADOR MELOY

SUMMARY: NOVEMBER 22 NEWSPAPERS ALL GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE  
TO IV COMMITTEE VOTE, BUT HEADLINES WERE SMALLER AND COVERAGE  
LIGHTER THAN GOG MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. GOG RESPONDED QUICKLY  
BY REITERATING PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO REFUSE TO HEED  
ANY UNFAVORABLE UN RESOLUTION, BUT AT SAME TIME LEFT  
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PAGE 02 GUATEM 06596 232113Z

OPEN POSSIBILITY OF REFERRING CASE TO ICJ. UK PERMREP RICHARD'S

STATEMENTS HAVE NOT YET ELICITED OFFICIAL REACTION. OAS SEC GEN ORFILA HAS APPEARED TO INVITE GOG RECOURSE TO OAS. GOG REACTION TO LOSS AT UN HAS BEEN ONE OF DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT HAS BEEN FAR FROM BELLICOSE. PRESS HAS BEGUN SEARCH FOR SCAPEGOAT. END SUMMARY.

1. NOVEMBER 22 NEWSPAPERS ALL GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE TO RESULTS OF IV COMMITTEE VOTE. GOG RESPONDED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY TO NEWS BY REITERATING ITS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO REFUSE TO HEED ANY UNFAVORABLE UN RESOLUTION. SPEAKING THROUGH ACTING FONMIN OBIOLS, GOG ANNOUNCED THAT IT "HAS ALREADY DECLARED EMPHATICALLY THAT IT DOES NOT FEEL ITSELF OBLIGATED TO HEED SUCH A RESOLUTION, FOR IN ANY CASE THE MEASURE HAS NO MORE THAN RECOMMENDATORY CHARACTER." OBIOLS SAID "WE HAVE LOST A BATTLE BUT NOT THE WAR."

2. OBIOLS ADDED THAT "THE INTERVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE HAS NOT BEEN RULED OUT, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW THAT SAID COURT, AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO ITS CONSIDERATION OF A CASE, REQUIRES THE CONSENT OF BOTH PARTIES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE IN WHICH THE DISPUTE WILL BE EXAMINED."

3. UK PERMREP RICHARD'S COMMENTS FOLLOWING VOTE IN IV COMMITTEE WERE CARRIED IN GRAFICA AND PRENSA LIBRA NOVEMBER 22. ACCORDING TO WIRE SERVICES, RICHARD ANNOUNCED THAT UK WAS PREPARED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSE OF UNGA SESSION DECEMBER 16, AND THAT "WE TRUST (GOG) WILL WISH TO DO THE SAME." GOG HAS NOT YET MADE DIRECT PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE RICHARD STATEMENT. EL GRAFICO, HOWEVER, QUOTED UNNAMED GOG OFFICIAL AS SAYING THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH UK, BECAUSE INGREDIENTS INDISPENSABLE FOR A DIALOGUE WOULD BE LACKING WHERE THERE IS "THE FORE-KNOWLEDGE OF PRECONCEIVED ANSWERS."

4. OAS SEC GEN ORFILA, WHO ARRIVED HERE NOVEMBER 21 TO ATTEND CONFERENCE OF LABOR MINISTERS, HAD ATTRIBUTED TO HIM STATEMENTS WHICH APPEAR TO INVITE GUATEMALAN RECOURSE TO OAS. ORFILA TOLD PRESS NOVEMBER 22 THAT "ALL THE SYSTEMS OF PROTECTION WHICH THE OAS HAS FOR ITS MEMBER STATES WILL BE PUT AT GUATEMALA'S DISPOSAL IF (GUATEMALA) SO REQUESTS." PRESIDENT LAUGERUD WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GUATEM 06596 232113Z

REPORTED TO HAVE DISCUSSED BELIZE WITH ORFILA DURING THEIR HOUR-LONG MEETING.

5. COMMENT: OFFICIAL REACTION TO UN DEFEAT HAS DEMONSTRATED GOG DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT OFFICIAL STATEMENTS HAVE IN OUR VIEW BEEN FAR FROM BELLICOSE. AS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE GUATEMALAN DEFEAT BECOMES EVIDENT, HOWEVER, THE MEDIA HAVE BEGUN A SEARCH FOR A SCAPEGOAT. ONE NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL CHARGED THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY WITH "TOO MUCH GOOD FAITH" IN ALLOWING ITSELF TO BE  
"BEWITCHED" BY MEXICANS. ANOTHER CRITICIZED THE DULL PRESEN-  
TATION MADE BY GUATEMALAN SPEAKER SKINNER KLEE IN IV COMMITTEE  
DEBATE.  
ANDREWS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTION, COMMITTEES, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, MEETING VOTING RECORDS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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